

DM-673

DEPUTIES' MEETING

Wednesday, 19 November 1958

PRESENT: Mr. Dulles, General Cabell(part of mtg.), Col. White,
[redacted] Sheldon, [redacted]
[redacted]

Mr. Dulles:

a) Noted his extreme concern about the length of incoming cables. He said that by and large the more lengthy cables reported political information which is the responsibility of the Department of State or contained information which could just as well come by pouch. He also pointed out that in his opinion OPIM precedence is being greatly abused and these too are much too lengthy. He said that operational immediate cables should only be sent when the situation absolutely warrants it and should contain the essential facts only, to be followed with a more detailed report in a lesser precedent message. He went on to say that in the case of political information there was no reason why the Agency cannot rely upon State cables with the Station Chief concerned providing his comments as appropriate in a CIA message and where possible, keying it to the State communication. A case in point are the messages now being sent by [redacted] and it was agreed that these could be discontinued with the exception of [redacted] furnishing comments on State messages as indicated above.

General Cabell referred to the Director's comment on political reporting and stated that in his opinion in cases of coups the Chiefs of Stations should cover this field for the first three or four days following since during this period the Agency, and particularly the Director, is under great pressure to collect and disseminate all available information on such incidents. The Director agreed. After some further discussion it was agreed that DD/P would draft for the Director's approval further instructions regarding: 1) the elimination of unnecessary reporting by cable; 2) the assignment of OPIM and PRIORITY precedence. In connection with the latter, the Director commented that if long OPIM cables continue to be received he intended to direct the Signal Center to delay decoding such cables until after shorter OPIMS have been deciphered.

b) Referred to the committee established by General Cabell with representatives from OSI and DD/P on collection of information on the Soviet Guided Missile Effort and noted that the AD/SI had indicated to him that the actions taken by this committee were not proceeding as rapidly as he (AD/SI)

felt they should. The Director said, therefore, he would like Dr. Scoville to get together personally with the operators since he wanted every effort put forth to obtain information on this program. ACTION: DD/P and DD/I.

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c) Referred to [] and asked DD/I to study this dissemination with the thought of providing a memorandum for the President on the subject contained therein.

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d) Noted a cable [] respecting the sentences of Arif, Jamali and Daghestani and commented that the idea expressed in this message was interesting and asked DD/P to follow up on it.

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[]

f) Referred to the comments by [] on the China SNIE and directed that the information contained therein be made available to Hugh Cumming in State. ACTION: DD/I and DD/P.

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